

**Amendments to the Claims**

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for indicating criteria ~~[[used]]~~ for organizing electronic  
2 objects, comprising steps of:

3 selecting, by a user, an element of a rendered representation of an electronic object in a  
4 manner consistent with settings defined to ~~connote~~ indicate selection of organizing criteria; and  
5 automatically concluding, responsive to the selecting, that the user has indicated that the  
6 element is to become a criterion for organizing electronic objects.

1 Claim 2 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of  
2 defining the settings.

1 Claim 3 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the step of selecting  
2 further comprises the step of selecting a word, a phrase, or one or more contiguous characters as  
3 the element.

1 Claim 4 (original): The method according to Claim 3, wherein the word, the phrase, or the  
2 characters is/are contained in a text document.

1 Claim 5 (original): The method according to Claim 3, wherein the word, the phrase, or the  
2 characters is/are contained in an e-mail message.

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1 Claim 6 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 2, wherein the step of selecting  
2 further comprises the step of selecting a portion of an image ~~[[file]]~~ as the element.

1 Claim 7 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 2, wherein the step of selecting  
2 further comprises the step of selecting one or more words, phrases, ~~[[and]]~~ or characters as the  
3 element.

1 Claim 8 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the step of selecting  
2 further comprises the step of selecting a portion of one or more images ~~image files~~ as the element.

1 Claim 9 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of  
2 storing the selected element as an organizing criterion.

1 Claim 10 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step  
2 of using the selected element to format a rule that can subsequently be used for organizing stored  
3 documents.

1 Claim 11 (original): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the selecting step further  
2 comprises using a mouse device in the selecting step.

1 Claim 12 (original): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the selecting step further

2 comprises using a light pen device in the selecting step.

1 Claim 13 (original): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the selecting step further  
2 comprises using a plasma panel device in the selecting step.

1 Claim 14 (original): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the selecting step further  
2 comprises using an audio mechanism in the selecting step.

1 Claim 15 (original): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the selecting step further  
2 comprises using a video mechanism in the selecting step.

1 Claim 16 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the settings specify  
2 that an element of a rendered representation of a particular electronic object must be swiped  
3 multiple times to ~~connote~~ indicate selection of that element.

1 Claim 17 (currently amended): The method according to Claim ~~[[9]]~~ 1, wherein, responsive to  
2 the ~~selecting~~ automatically concluding step, the ~~selected element is added to organizing criteria of~~  
3 an index, such that the index thereby becomes adaptive to user actions.

1 Claim 18 (currently amended): A system for indicating criteria ~~[[used]]~~ for organizing electronic  
2 objects, comprising:

3 means for selecting, by a user, an element of a rendered representation of an electronic  
4 object in a manner consistent with settings defined to ~~connote~~ indicate selection of organizing  
5 criteria;

6 means for concluding, responsive to the means for selecting, that the user has indicated  
7 that the element is to become a criterion for organizing electronic objects; and

8 means for using the selected element to format a rule that can subsequently be used for  
9 organizing ~~stored documents~~ electronic objects.

1 Claim 19 (currently amended): A computer program product for indicating criteria ~~[[used]]~~ for  
2 organizing electronic objects, the computer program product embodied on one or more  
3 computer-readable media and comprising:

4 computer-readable program code means for selecting, by a user, an element of a rendered  
5 representation of an electronic object in a manner consistent with settings defined to ~~connote~~  
6 indicate selection of organizing criteria;

7 computer-readable program code means for concluding, responsive to the computer-  
8 readable program code means for selecting, that the user has indicated that the element is to  
9 become a criterion for organizing electronic objects; and

10 computer-readable program code means for using the selected element to format a rule  
11 that can subsequently be used for organizing ~~stored documents~~ electronic objects.

1 Claim 20 (new): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of providing the

- 2 selected element as a choice for formatting one or more rules that can subsequently be used for
- 3 organizing electronic objects.